Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NAIROB 07148 181444Z

44
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05

IGA-01 MC-02 ACDA-05 SAB-01 /075 W
---------- 103189
O R 181402Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4646
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 7148

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR MARSHALL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI, KE, US
SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING LOS ANGELES TIMES STORY ON U.S. ARMS AID TO KENYA

1. DIAL TORGESON, NAIROBI-BASED LOS ANGELES TIMES CORRESPONDENT, CALLED ON ME TODAY TO SEEK CONFIRMATION AND COMMENTARY ON BRIEFING GIVEN HIM IN DEPARTMENT AUGUST 15 ON U.S.-KENYA BILATERAL MILITARY RELATIONS BY LT. COL. COYKENDALL, POLITICAL-MILITARY OFFICER IN BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS. AFTER TORGESON READ HIS NOTES ON BRIEFING TO ME, I TOLD HIM I WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT DEPARTMENT OFFICER
WOULD HAVE RELEASED SUCH COMPREHENSIVE
INFORMATION ON SUBJECT WHICH KENYAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS SENSITIVE. I SAID THAT GOK HAD ASKED THAT WE NOT TAKE INITIATIVE TO RELEASE INFORMATION ON BILATERAL ARMS TALKS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NAIROB 07148 181444Z

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS RECOGNIZED THAT INFORMATION -- SOME OF

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

WHICH MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD IN WASHINGTON -- WOULD
INEVITABLY BE PICKED UP BY PRESS AT SOME POINT.

2. INASMUCH AS IT WAS APPARENT THAT TORGESON HAD BEEN
GIVEN VIRTUALLY COMPLETE STORY ON STATUS OUR BILATERAL
ARMS NEGOTIATIONS WITH KENYM(FMS CREDIT, MAP TRAINING,
F-5'S, ETC.) AND IT WAS ALSO CLEAR THAT HE WAS DETERMINED
TO PUBLISH FEATURE STORY ON THIS SUBJECT (SEPARATE FROM
BROADER STORY ON U.S. ARMS AID TO AFRICA WHICH WAS HIS ORIG-
INAL REASON FOR CALLING AT DEPARTMENT), I DECIDED IT WOULD
BE BEST TO BRIEF HIM (ON A NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION TO EMBASSY
BASIS) SO AS TO PUT PROSPECTIVE U.S. ARMS SUPPLY RELATION-
SHIP WITH KENYA IN ACCURATE POLITICAL AND MILITARY
PERSPECTIVE. I EMPHASIZED THAT -- CONTRARY TO HIS INITIAL
IMPRESSION -- USG HAS NO PLANS TO "SUPPLANT" UK AS PREDOMIN-
ANT SUPPLIER OF ARMS AND TRAINING TO KENYA, AND THAT IT WAS
OUR HOPE THAT UK AS WELL AS OTHER FRIENDLY WESTERN COUNTRIES
WOULD ALSO FIND IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE
TO ENABLE KENYA TO REDRESS CURRENT HIGHLY UNFAVORABLE
REGIONAL ARMS BALANCE AND THEREBY DETER POSSIBLE EXTERNAL
AGGRESSION. I ALSO STRESSED THAT TO DATE NO SPECIFIC ARMS
DEALS WITH U.S. HAD BEEN CONSUMMATED AND THAT $5 MILLION
LINE OF FMS CREDIT HAD THEREFORE NOT BEEN DRAWN DOWN.

3. AFTER TORGESON LEFT I PHONE DEFENCE MINISTRY ACTING
PERMSEC GITONGA TO ALERT HIM THAT TORGESON'S STORY WOULD
BE COMING OUT SHORTLY AND WOULD PROBABLY ALSO APPEAR IN
PARIS HERALD-TRIBUNE, WHICH IS CIRCULATED IN KENYA.
GITONGA WAS QUITE UPSET THAT DEPARTMENT HAD TAKEN INITIATIVE TO
RELEASE NEWS, BUT AGREED WITH ME THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ONLY
MATTER OF TIME BEFORE IT BECAME KNOWN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER
TO PRESS. HE PROMISED TO PASS WORD WITHIN GOK SO THAT
THOSE CONCERNED CAN BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO PRESS
QUERIES.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED TELEGRAPHICALLY
ON ANY STORIES THIS SUBJECT WHICH MIGHT BREAK IN STATESIDE
PRESS.
LINDSTROM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NAIROB07148
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750284-1039
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750844/aaaablzj.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORTHCOMING LOS ANGELES TIMES STORY ON U.S. ARMS AID TO KENYA
TAGS: MILI, KE, US, LOS ANGELES TIMES, (TORGESON, DIAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006